

**REMARKS**

This application is a Continuation Application of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/720,873, which was filed on March 16, 2001.

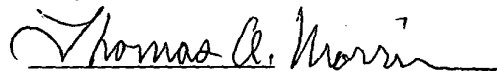
***Status of Claims (Amendments)***

Applicant has amended the specification and claims 1-3 by the current amendment. Applicant has also canceled claims 4-7 without prejudice or disclaimer. In addition, Applicant has added new claims 8-20 by the current amendment. This leaves claims 1-3 and 8-20 pending in this application with claim 1 being the sole independent claim. The above amendments to the specification and the claims were made in the parent application (Serial No. 09/720,873). Entrance of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

***Drawings***

Applicant has filed herewith one (1) replacement sheet of drawings, including Figures 1-3. Specifically, Figure 2 has been modified to show the stiffening element applied to the balloon, as set forth in the claims. The stiffening element is shown in dotted lines and labeled with numeral 16. The above drawing changes were approved in the parent application (Serial No. 09/720,873). Applicant respectfully requests approval and entrance of the one (1) replacement sheet of drawings, including Figures 1-3.

Respectfully submitted,



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